

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Robert W. Blakesley

Appl. No. (to be assigned)

Filed: (herewith)

For: **Methods for Preventing Inhibition
of Nucleic Acid Synthesis by
Pyrophosphate**

Confirmation No.:

Art Unit: (to be assigned)

Examiner: (to be assigned)

Atty. Docket: 0942.4150002/RWE

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;

(B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments.

37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and

(C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: “Version with markings to show changes made.”

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the Specification:

Please substitute the following section with the pending section at page 1 entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications":

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/971,675, filed November 17, 1997, pending, which claims priority to U.S. provisional Application No. 60/031,216, filed November 22, 1996, the contents of which are fully incorporated by reference herein.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2-51 without prejudice or disclaimer.

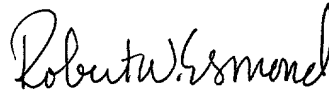
Remarks

The specification has been amended only to indicate the lineage of this application. Claims 2-51 are sought to be canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thereto. Claim 1 is now the sole pending claim in the application.

Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added by way of the above amendments, and their entry is respectfully requested. Early notification thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: June 19, 2001

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the Specification:

The section at page 1 entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/971,675, filed November 17, 1997, pending, which claims priority to U.S. provisional Application No. 60/031,216, filed November 22, 1996, the contents of which [. The contents of this application] are fully incorporated by reference herein.

In the Claims:

Claims 2-51 have been canceled.